



# EBT NEWS

County of Los Angeles  
Department of Public  
Social Services

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## EBT IS COMING



### EBT AND ALTERNATE CARDHOLDERS / AU- THORIZED REPRESENTA- TIVES

The implementation of EBT allows cash participants the option to designate an Alternate Cardholder (AC) for cash benefits and an Authorized Representative (AR) for Food Stamps. With this new option, the participant or regular case payee (known on EBT as the Primary Cardholder) will also determine the EBT account each designated individual can access (cash only, Food Stamps

only, or cash and Food Stamps). That means for a cash case with Food Stamps, there can be an individual designated for the Food Stamp EBT account, another individual designated for the cash account only, and a third individual to access both the cash and Food Stamps accounts. The AC and AR will have their own EBT card for the account and their own Personal Identification Number (PIN).

More on the Alternate Cardholders / Authorized Representatives (i.e. requirements, information needed, etc.) will be in the EBT implementation instructions. These instructions will be provided to eligibility staff in the EBT Pilot districts when they go to training in July. For all other districts, this information will be accessible on LEADER.

### Pilot Participant Training Sites

Property Management Section, together with the CAO, ISD and OIT, has worked diligently toward securing the sites for this critical aspect of EBT implementation. Participant training is scheduled for July 19, 21-26, 2003 for Metro East and July 22-26, 2003 for South Central District. The sites have been identified as follows:

Metro East: **Plaza Del Sol**  
1241 S. Soto Street, Room 200  
Los Angeles 90023

South Central: **South Central Grow Center**  
2701 Firestone Blvd.  
South Gate, Ca 90280

Plaza Del Sol is 0.3 miles away from the Metro East facility, and the GROW Center only 3.2 miles from South Central District. The sites will not be available to DPSS until June 1<sup>st</sup> at which time site preparations will begin. **Please, refrain from visiting the sites prior to the training dates as to not disrupt current facility operations.**

### Statewide EBT Implementation On Schedule

This month, three more counties in California implemented EBT — Tulare, Fresno and San Joaquin. To date, this brings the total number of counties on-line to 19. They include Alameda, Yolo, Contra Costa, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, San Mateo, Orange, San Francisco, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Merced, Stanislaus and Riverside.

### Cardholders for EBT and LEADER

Primary Cardholders are directly linked to the Case Regular Payee on LEADER. Therefore, at the time of Conversion or initial case authorization, LEADER will automatically create the Primary Cardholder for each case based on the Case Regular Payee.

Since LEADER can take this action only when the Regular Payee is a case member, the Pilot districts are currently reviewing cases where the Case Regular Payee is not already designated as a case member and taking the appropriate corrective action.

Additionally, at Conversion or when a case is authorized, Alternate Cardholders will automatically be created for any active Emergency Payee, Protective Payee, or Senior Payee. Workers may also add other case members and non case members as Alternate Cardholders/Authorized Representatives, when requested by the head of household on the required form.

### EBT CASH ISSUANCE AP- PROVED BY BOARD OF SUPER- VISORS

The L.A. County Board of Supervisors has approved the issuance of cash benefits through EBT.

At their May 20th public meeting, the Board unanimously decided to join the other 15 counties in the State now issuing cash through EBT.

With this decision behind us, all systems are GO! for implementation of EBT for food stamps and cash on 7/19/03.

Notices to clients announcing EBT's arrival will be mailed in mid-June.